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LOOKES & BLYMYER,

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C. F. LOOKES, C. F. BLYMYER.

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THURSDAY MORNING, DEC. 24, 1868.

Congressional.

We condense, as much as possible,

the proceedings of Congress in order

to make available for our space:

SENATE, December 17.—Mr. Chan-

dler, of Mich. (R.), introduced a bill

to grant lands to aid in the construction

of the Wisconsin and Lake Super-

ior Railroad. Referred to the

Committee on Public Lands. Mr.

McCreery, of Ky. (D.), submitted a

resolution to amend the Constitution,

designed to protect the rights of mi-

norities and to provide against the

contingency of bringing the election

of President and Vice President into

the House of Representatives. Re-

ferred to the Judiciary Committee.

Mr. Sherman, of Ohio, (R.), from the

Finance Committee, reported a bill

amending the act imposing a tax up-

on spirits, tobacco, &c., by extending

the time for affixing stamps to the

15th of February, which passed.—

The House bill, removing political

disabilities from citizens of South

Carolina, elected to State offices,

passed. On motion of Mr. Sumner

the Senate took up the joint resolu-

tion of sympathy with the people of

Spain in their efforts to establish a

new order of things. Before a vote

could be taken the morning hour ex-

pired, and the Senate resumed con-

sideration of the resolution reported

by the Finance Committee disapprov-

ing the President's financial recom-

mendation. Mr. Dixon, of Connecti-

cute (R.), was opposed to repudiation

in every and any form, but was not

willing to admit that the President

had proposed repudiation, for the

reason, among others, that he did not

propose to make it compulsory on

public creditors to accept his plans.

Mr. Dixon then discussed at length

Senator Morton's plan for resuming

specie payment, and hoped it would

not be adopted, because it would pro-

duce a state of protracted financial

agony up to the time when specie

payments were to be resumed. In-

deed, he doubted specie payment

could be resumed merely by legisla-

tion at all. Certainly it had never

been resumed in that way. If after

the war Congress had established

and adhered to a rigid system of

economy, refusing to increase salar-

ies and retrenching in every depart-

ment, the currency would now in his

judgment be at par, and his plan for

resuming specie payment at the ear-

liest possible moment would be, first

to institute such a system of econ-

omy, stopping every unnecessary out-

lay, stopping, if necessary, the Pacific

Railroad, and certainly the purchase

of real estate by government; and

second, to remove all political dis-

abilities from the people of the South,

as proposed by his colleague, Mr.

Ferry. Mr. Dixon moved to amend

the resolution, by stating that Con-

gress agrees with the President that

our national credit should be sacre-

dly observed. Mr. Howard, of Mich.

(R.), objected to and Mr. Dixon ad-

vanced the amendment. Mr. Howe,

of Wisconsin, (R.), moved to amend

the resolution so as to state that

Congress agrees with the sentiments

which ought to have been, but were

not, expressed in the President's mes-

sage, that the national faith should

ment in reference to the hostile or

peaceful character of Indians recent-

ly killed or captured by troops, and

as to whether they were at the time

residing on a government reservation.

Adopted. Mr. Davis, of Kentucky,

(D.), moved to take up the joint res-

olution pledging the faith of the

public debt in coin, or its equivalent,

which was done. Mr. Davis

then moved to amend by making it

declare that the true and equitable

measure of liability of the United

States upon these bonds is what was

received by the government for bonds

with interest thereon. Laid on the

table. Mr. Trumbull, from the Com-

mittee on the Judiciary, reported ad-

versely on the joint resolution to ex-

tend to loyal citizens of Louisiana

and Arkansas the provisions of the

Act of July 4, 1864, limiting the ju-

risdiction of the Court of Claims.—

Mr. Edmunds, of Vermont (R.), in-

troduced a bill to repeal the Act of

June 25, 1863, admitting Georgia to

representation in Congress, and to

provide a provisional government

therein, and for other purposes, which

was referred to the Committee on the

Judiciary. It provides that the

Legislature of Georgia has violated

the 14th Amendment by refusing to

purge itself of ineligible members,

and has, in violation of the Constitu-

tion and the fundamental principles

upon which Congress consented to

the restoration of the State, expelled

a large number of regularly installed

members, on the sole ground that

they were persons of African blood;

and that the local authorities of the

State appear to be wholly unable or

unwilling to protect the lives, lib-

erty and property of its peaceful and

unoffending citizens from lawless vi-

olence and refrain purposely or from

want of power from bringing such of-

fenders to justice. On motion of

Mr. Sumner, of Massachusetts (R.),

the Senate took up the resolution

expressing sympathy with the people

of Spain. Mr. Davis did not like the

latter part of the resolution recom-

mending the abolition of slavery, and

characterized it as a piece of officious

interference. Mr. Salisbury, of Del-

aware (D.), agreed with them.

The resolution passed, 41 yeas, 5

noys. It is in these words:

Resolved, That the people of the

United States, sympathizing with the

people of Spain in their efforts to es-

tablish a more liberal form of gov-

ernment, express their confident hope

that it will be conducted to the end

in such a way as to promote the tri-

umph of liberal institutions, and they

earnestly appeal to the people not to

allow the present opportunity to pass

without securing the immediate

emancipation of the slaves, and the

final abolition of slavery throughout

the Spanish dominions.

At this point the Clerk of the

House appeared with the resolution

on the death of Thaddeus Stevens.—

Mr. Cameron, of Pa. (R.), formally

announced the death to the Senate

and read a brief address tracing the

history of the deceased, reciting his

past services, and eulogizing his char-

acter. He then offered the resolu-

tions usual on such occasions. Messrs.

Backwell, of Pa. (D.), Morrill, of

Vt. (R.), and Sumner, of Mass. (R.),

followed with eulogies, when the

Senate unanimously adopted the re-

solutions offered by Mr. Cameron.

HONORARY DEC. 17.—The death of Mr.

Stevens of Pennsylvania, was an-

nounced by Mr. Dickey. A large au-

dience in the galleries. Speeches

of the Homestead act to orphan chil-

dren of deceased soldiers who are

under the age of 12 years. Passed.

On motion of Mr. Brooks, of New

York (D.), the Reconstruction Com-

mittee was authorized to send for

persons and papers and examine wit-

nesses in reference to the States of

Georgia, Mississippi, Texas and Vir-

ginia. Mr. Boutwell, of Massachu-

setts (R.), from the Reconstruction

Committee, reported that the Senate

amendment was concurred in by the

requisite two-thirds. The death of

the late Mr. Finney, of Pennsylvania,

was announced by his successor,

Mr. Pettis, and remarks in eulogy of

the deceased were made by Messrs.

Pettis, O'Neal, of Pennsylvania (D.),

Randall, of Pennsylvania (D.), and

Woodward, of Pennsylvania (D.).

One of the resolutions offered by Mr.

Pettis on the subject having provided

for a committee of nine to receive

the remains of the deceased in New

York on their arrival from Brussels,

and accompany them to Pennsylvania,

the Speaker appointed as such com-

mittee, Messrs. Pettis, O'Neal, Ran-

dall, Woodward, Lawrence, of Pen-

sylvania, Dawes, of Massachusetts,

Blair, of Michigan, Cullom, of Illi-

nois, and Back, of New York. The

House then adjourned until Monday.

Chicago Soldiers' Re-Union.

The soldiers' re-union in Chicago

was altogether a splendid affair. The

speeches were excellent, and the good

effects of such gatherings of soldiers

and comrades were evident. But there

was one matter that did much to do

away with all the good that other-

wise was engendered. The banquet

which was to close the affair was dis-

graceful indeed, as the following ac-

count of it shows:

"There was a stormy scene at the

banquet to-night. After the eatables

were disposed of, a terrible raid was

made on bottles, and negroes who

dispensed liquid refreshments were

almost frightened out of their wits

as they were besieged on every hand

by eager and excited warriors of

shoulder straps, champagne corks

flying as thickly as bullets in a bat-

tle, and necks of bottles were snap-

ped off in every direction by those who

were too thirsty to wait for cork

screws and waiters.

In vain General Sherman essayed

to bring his subordinates to order.—

His march to the sea was an easy

task when compared to an attempt

to restore quiet among that army of

Generals. He roared, shouted, and

finally made himself heard by a few,

and announced that the regular or-

der of proceedings would commence.

The poem by Colonel Pierce was

not finished, and the remainder of the

programme, down to the response of

General Logan, was after vain at-

tempts, abandoned by reason of the

incessant riotous conduct. Shouts

and screams were continuous; alleys

were choked by a surging crowd; ta-

bles and floors were strewn with glass,

champagne bottles were stuck into

bullet holes, and angrily reigned

supreme. Governor Oglesby begged

the assembly to be quiet.

James H. Brown called on the

Chairman to urge the police to the

faithful performance of their duties.

A dozen general and staff officers

rose simultaneously to plead for or-

der.

Six military personages were ar-

rested for endeavoring to carry bot-

les of wine from the hall, and con-

veyed to the police headquarters.

General Logan asserted that riot-

ous demonstrations at the south end

of the hall were studied marks of

disrespect to the President elect of

the United States. General Thomas

of the United States, General Thom-

as, and General Logan spoke, and

then gave way to General Thom-

as, who was received with the wild-

est cheers, and permitted to complete

his speech without serious interrup-

tion.

Vice President elect, Colfax, in a

speech in Philadelphia, Saturday

night last, stated what the policy of

the incoming Administration would

be. He said, in substance, that it

was in favor of the most searching

retrenchment, honesty, efficiency and

high character in all connected with

the public service, a rigid guardian-

ship of the treasury against unwise

and extravagant schemes; a finan-

cial policy which shall maintain our

currency and place the United States

on the firm rock of specie payment.

"I will readily round up words of mine,

and bring the welcome day."

An outraged people sing, and with

no very thankful hearts for the past

at that.

Mrs. Gran